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Jaycock

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(54) **SHUTTERING**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A shuttering formwork suitable for use as sacrificial shuttering formwork includes an elongate body member having a base portion and a compression portion extending therefrom and presenting a free end that extends in a length direction of the elongate body member. The elongate body member has first and second sides, each comprising a compression portion side face and a base portion upper face. A strip element is releasably attachable to the free end of the compression portion. The compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of at least one side of the elongate body member are each a resiliently deformable surface. The base portion is provided with apertures for receiving mortar material. The shuttering formwork may be fabricated from a plastics material and have a hollow structure.

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E04G 11/36 (2006.01)

E04B 5/32 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC **E04G 11/06** (2013.01); **E02D 27/02** (2013.01); **E04G 11/36** (2013.01); **E04B 2005/322** (2013.01)

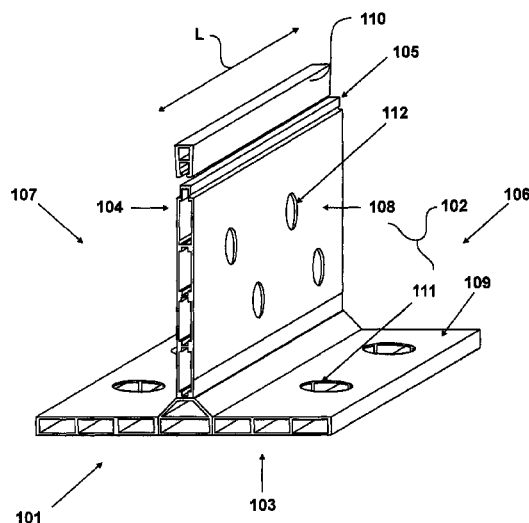
(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC E04G 11/06

USPC 52/396.02, 396.04; 404/47

See application file for complete search history.

20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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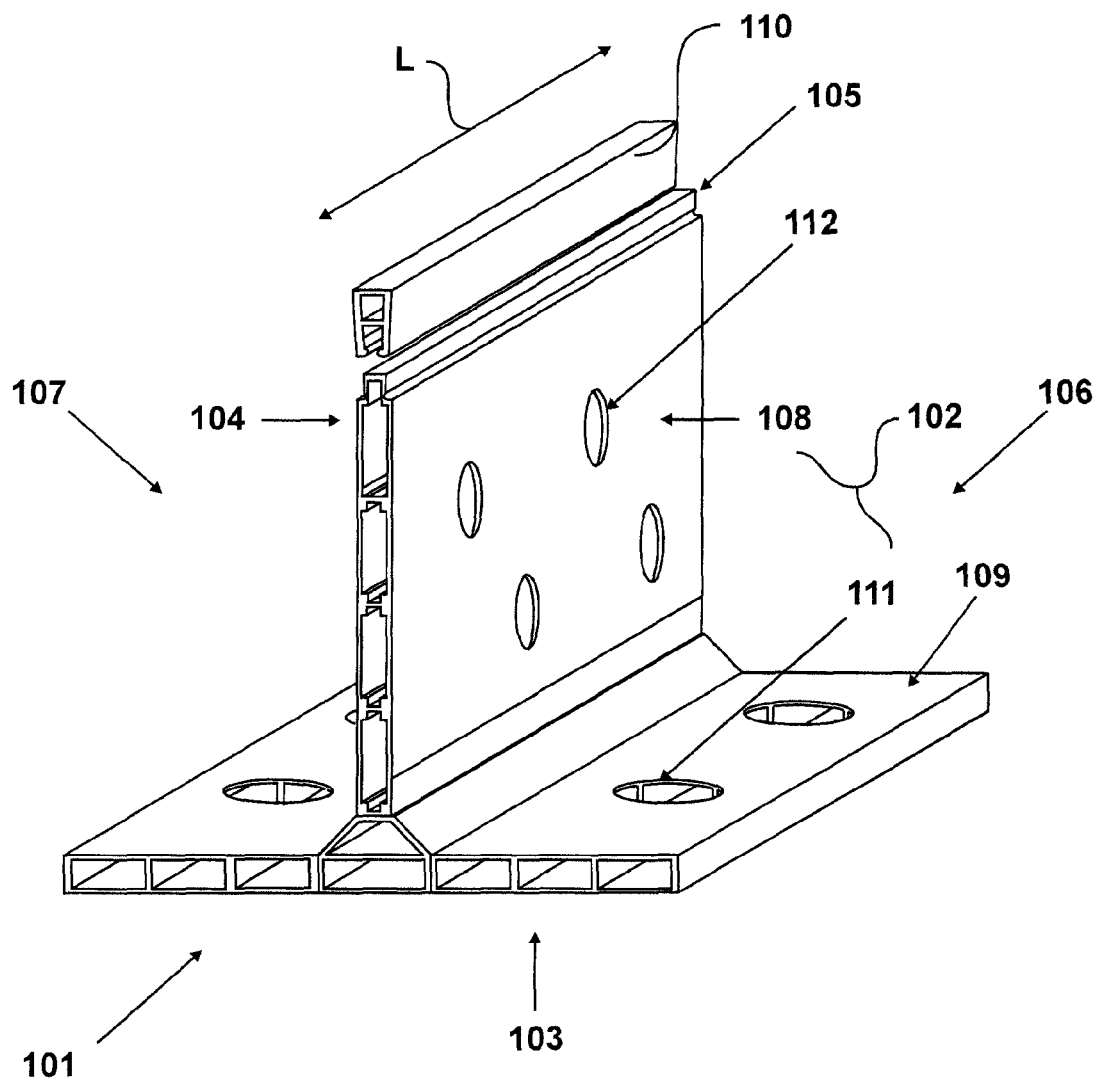


FIG. 1

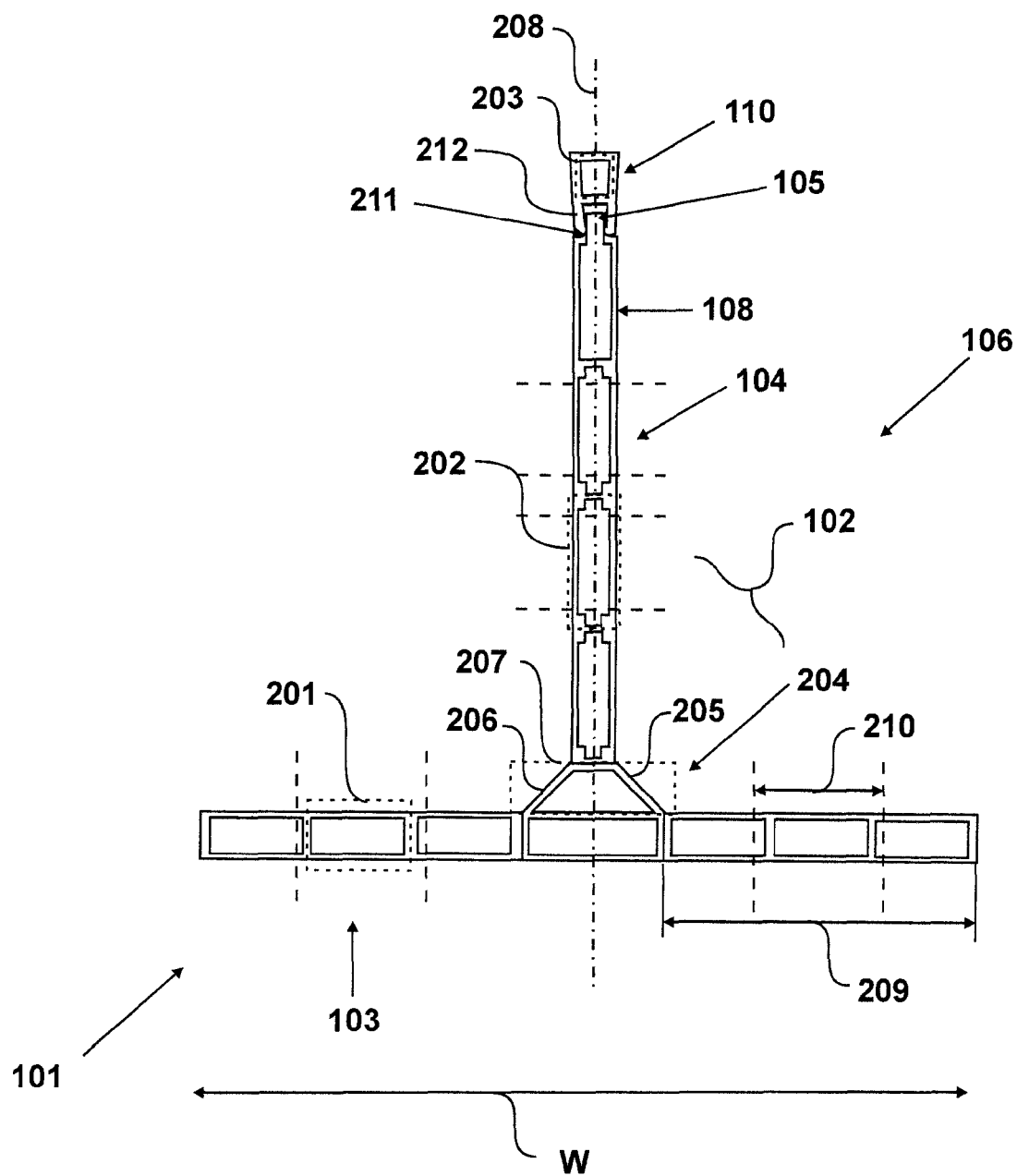


FIG. 2

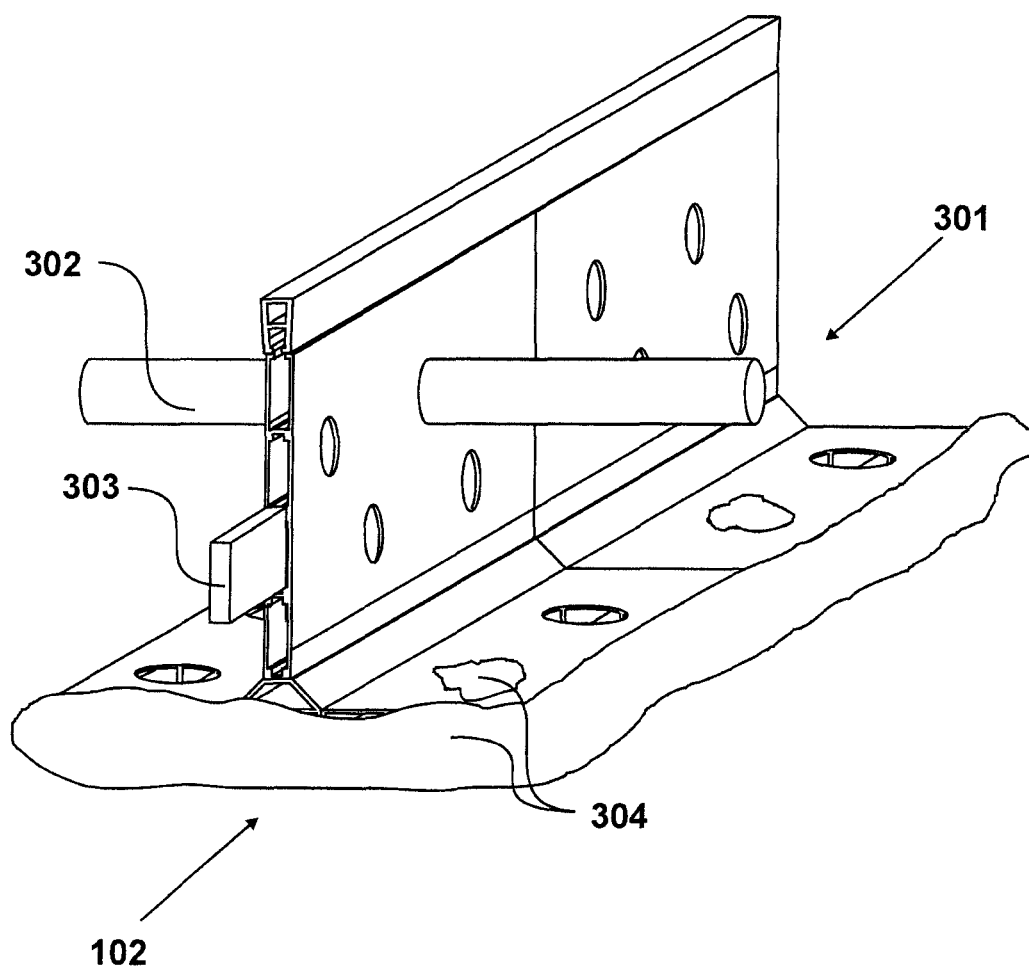


FIG. 3

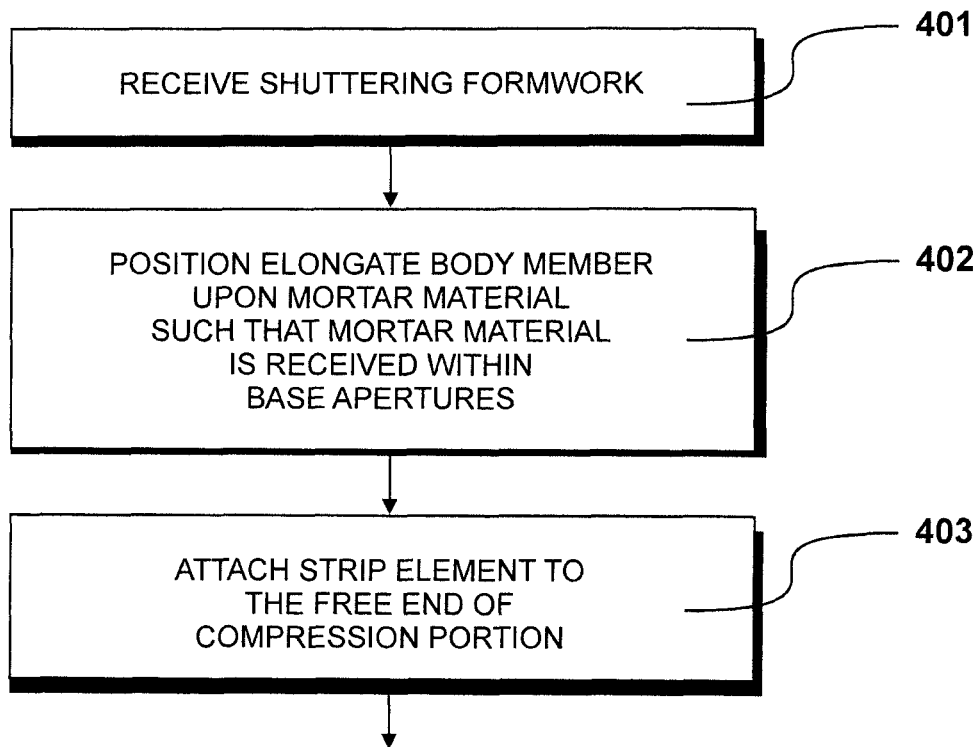


FIG. 4

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SHUTTERING**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 12/726,656 filed on Mar. 18, 2010, which claims priority of European patent application EP 10 002 170.8 filed on Mar. 3, 2010, the entire contents of these applications being hereby incorporated by reference herein.

FIELD

The present invention relates to shuttering, in particular to a shuttering formwork for poured concrete that is suitable for use as a sacrificial shuttering formwork.

BACKGROUND

Newly poured concrete, which is in a wet, fluid form, needs to be maintained in position until it has cured sufficiently to hold its own shape. When poured, the concrete is typically levelled and then left to set. When forming a concrete slab, physical features, such as existing walls and kerbs, may be used to define physical boundaries for retaining the poured concrete in place whilst it sets. Alternatively, structures known as shuttering or formwork may be arranged to provide support for the edges of the bed of poured concrete. Such a structure may be of a temporary type, for example steel shuttering, which is removed after the poured concrete has hardened. However, the structure may be sacrificial, and hence left in place. A problem with sacrificial shuttering formwork is that it must withstand the expansion forces of the concrete as it cures and also have appropriate qualities for it to be used as sacrificial apparatus.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a shuttering formwork comprising: an elongate body member comprising a base portion and a compression portion extending from said base portion substantially perpendicularly thereto and presenting a free end that extends in the length direction of said elongate body member, said elongate body member comprising a first side and a second side, each side comprising a compression portion side face and a base portion upper face; and a strip element releasably attachable to said free end of said compression portion; the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of at least one side of said first and second sides of said elongate body member each being a resiliently deformable surface.

In a preferred embodiment, the base portion, the compression portion and the strip element each comprise a plastics material and each comprise a hollow structure.

According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of pouring a concrete slab, said method comprising the steps of a) receiving a shuttering formwork according to the first aspect, b) positioning the elongate body member of said received shuttering formwork upon mortar material such that mortar material is received within the base apertures of the base element, and c) attaching the strip element of said shuttering formwork to the free end of the compression portion of said elongate body member.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING FIGURES

An embodiment of the present invention will now be more particularly described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

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FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a shuttering formwork; suitable for use as sacrificial shuttering formwork;

FIG. 2 is a side view of the shuttering formwork of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 illustrates features of the shuttering formwork of FIGS. 1 and 2; and

FIG. 4 illustrates steps in a method of use of the shuttering formwork of FIGS. 1 to 3.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A shuttering formwork suitable for use as sacrificial shuttering formwork is shown in FIG. 1. Shuttering formwork **101** comprises an elongate body member **102** comprising a base portion **103** and a compression portion **104** extending from the base portion **103** substantially perpendicularly thereto and presenting a free end **105** that extends in the length direction L of said elongate body member **102**. The elongate body member **102** comprises a first side **106** and a second side **107**, each side **106**, **107** comprising a compression portion side face, such as compression portion side face **108** of first side **106**, and a base portion upper face, such as base portion upper face **109** of first side **106**. Shuttering formwork **101** also comprises a strip element **110** that is releasably attachable to the free end **105** of the compression portion **104**.

Advantageously, the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of at least one side **106**, **107** of the elongate body member **102** are each a resiliently deformable surface. Hence, for example, compression portion side face **108** of first side **106** and base portion upper face **109** of first side **106** are each a resiliently deformable surface.

Thus, in an embodiment, the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of only one side of the elongate body member are resiliently deformable surfaces. In an alternative embodiment, the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of both sides of the elongate body member resiliently deformable. A shuttering formwork in which the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face of both sides of the elongate body member are each a resiliently deformable surface can be used between two concrete bays, separating them.

In use, the base portion **103** of the elongate body member **102** is typically located substantially horizontally upon a flat foundation layer, such as a level layer of bedding mortar, such that the compression portion extends substantially vertically.

In an embodiment, the base portion **103** defines a plurality of base apertures therethrough on each of the first and second sides **106**, **107** of the elongate body member **102**, such as base aperture **111** on the first side **106** of the elongate body member **102**. These base apertures are provided for receiving mortar material, to advantageously anchor the base portion in a desired location and, in turn, to increase the stability of the shuttering formwork **101** when in use.

In an embodiment, the compression portion **104** also defines a plurality of compression portion apertures therethrough, such as compression portion aperture **112**. These compression apertures are provided for receiving dowel, or tie, bars, such as may be used to stabilizing, supporting or connecting.

Shuttering formwork **101** is shown in FIG. 2, with the strip element **110** releasably attached to the free end **105** of the compression portion **104** of the elongate body member **102**.

In a preferred embodiment, the base portion **103**, the compression portion **104** and the strip element **110** each

comprise a plastics material. The use of a relatively cheap plastics material allows the shuttering formwork to be sacrificial. A plastics material also allows for easy cutting of the elongate body member and the strip element on site, to a desired length. In an example, the plastics material is UPVC (Unplasticized Polyvinyl Chloride) material. In a preferred application, the UPVC material is recycled UPVC material. In a preferred embodiment, the base portion **103**, the compression portion **104** and the strip element **110** each comprise a hollow structure. As illustrated, in a preferred example, the hollow structure of each of the base portion **103**, the compression portion **104** and the strip element **110** each have a cross-section that comprises at least one substantially rectangular shape. The substantially rectangular shape may be regular or irregular and may have only 4 or more than 4 sides. The substantially rectangular shape may vary between the cross-sections of the base portion **103**, the compression portion **104** and the strip element **110**, as can be seen in this illustrated example from comparison of the substantially rectangular shape **201** of base portion **103**, substantially rectangular shape **202** of compression portion **104** and substantially rectangular shape **203** of strip element **110**. The hollow structures of the base portion **103**, the compression portion **104** and the strip element **110** are provided by first and second spaced apart walls that are connected by flutes or cross-pieces. The first and second walls may be substantially parallel to each other, or may be slightly angled towards or away from each other. It is to be appreciated that any suitable type of hollow structure may be used for the base portion and the compression portion at least of the shuttering formwork as appropriate.

The use of a hollow plastics structure in the shuttering formwork provides several advantages. It serves to reduce the overall weight of the shuttering formwork. This conveniently facilitates manual handling and transportation. A hollow structure provides the base portion and compression portion with sufficient strength to withstand forces thereon resultant from the concrete pour. A hollow plastics structure of the base portion and compression portion may provide the base portion and the compression portion with a resiliently deformable surface. Thus, in this example, the compression portion side face **108** of first side **106** and base portion upper face **109** of first side **106** are each a resiliently deformable surface provided by the hollow plastics structure. The resiliently deformable surface of the compression portion side face **108** allows for expansion of the poured concrete during setting. In this way, the shuttering formwork **101** has an integral compression joint. The resiliently deformable surface of the base portion upper face **109** advantageously increases the stability of the shuttering formwork **101** when in use.

In this example, at the junction between the base portion **103** and the compression portion **104** of the elongate body member **102** is provided a connector portion **204**, which has a pair of outwardly extending angled flange members **205**, **206**. It can be seen that the connector **204** portion also has a cross-section that comprises at least one substantially rectangular shape **207**. The connector portion **204** also serves to increase the strength of the shuttering formwork **101**.

In this illustrated example, the compression portion **104** is substantially centrally located in the width direction **W** of the elongate body member **102**. In this example, the elongate body member **102**, and the elongate body member **102** with the strip element **110** attached to the free end **105** of the compression portion **104**, is substantially symmetrical about a centre line **208**. However, it is to be appreciated that other

arrangements may be suitable. It is also to be appreciated that other hollow structures may be suitable. In a preferred embodiment, the elongate body member **102** and the strip element **110** are formed by an extrusion process. Again, however, any suitable manufacturing technique or combination of manufacturing techniques may be utilized.

The base portion upper surface of each side of the elongate body member, such as base portion upper surface **109** of side **106** has a width **209**. In an example, the base apertures have a diameter, as indicated at **210**, that it equal to or greater than 50% of the width dimension of the respective base portion upper face.

According to this illustrated example, the strip element **110** is securable to the free end **105** of the compression portion **104** by a friction fit. As also featured in this example, the strip element **110** is securable to the free end **105** of the compression portion **104** in a predetermined condition by a friction fit. As shown in this Fig., the upper edge of the free end **105** of the compression portion **104** is narrowed to provide a pair of shoulders, such as shoulder **211**, upon which a pair of legs, such as leg **212**, of the strip element **110** may sit, such that the strip element **110** straddles the free end **105** of the compression portion **104**.

Shuttering formwork **101** is shown in FIG. 3, in which elongate body member **102** is adjacent a second like elongate body member **301**. The elongate body members **102**, **301** are arranged in a substantially linear arrangement, such that they extend in the same direction in the form of a rail. A dowel bar **302** is shown located within a compression aperture of compression portion **104**. The ends of the elongate body member **102** are open. The shuttering formwork **101** may further comprise a plurality of end clip elements, such as end clip element **303**, that may be located within the hollow structure of the compression portion **104**, and used to connect the ends of adjacent like elongate body members. In this Fig., the elongate body member **102** is shown located upon mortar material **304**, such that mortar material is received within base apertures of the base portion **103**. As previously discussed, the shuttering formwork **101** is located to act as a retaining edge for poured concrete to hold it in place whilst it cures. The hollow resiliently deformable surfaces of at least one side of the elongate body member enable it to accommodate expansion of the concrete during the curing process and function to hold the elongate body member in position during this same process. The shuttering formwork provides an integral expansion joint.

Steps in a method of use of shuttering formwork as described herein are shown in FIG. 4. At step **401**, shuttering formwork is received. Then, at step, the elongate body member of the received shuttering formwork is positioned upon mortar material such that mortar material is received with base apertures of the base portion. The strip element is then attached to the free end of the compression portion. A strip element may be dimensioned to fit along a single compression portion or along more than one compression portion.

When the shuttering formwork is suitably anchored, typically when the bedding mortar has cured, at a desired site, the concrete may then be poured. Being sacrificial, the shuttering formwork may be left in place and not removed after the concrete has hardened. However, the strip element may be removed, leaving the elongate body member. The resultant gap may then be filled in with a joint sealing material for example.

In an example, a shuttering formwork has an elongate body that has a length dimension of 3000 mm in length, a width dimension of 155 mm, and a height dimension of 135

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mm. Four base apertures are defined on each side of the elongate body. It is to be appreciated however, that the dimensions of the elongate body and strip element may vary between applications, and that the number and arrangement of defined base apertures and, where provided, compression

portion apertures, may also vary between applications. The shuttering formwork serves to increase the ease and speed of which concrete pours may be completed. Units of the shuttering formwork are mechanically connectable together, such that no specialist tools or specially trained operatives are required. This serves to reduce labor time and cost, in turn allowing more volume of concrete to be poured within a particular period of time. Shuttering formwork fabricated from a plastics material can also be fuel and oil resistant, and non-conductive, allowing it be used in a wide range of applications, for example petrol forecourts. This fabrication provides the shuttering formwork with durability and overcomes the problems of rotting or rusting when in situ when used as a sacrificial shuttering formwork. The shuttering formwork does not require anchoring stakes to be used.

What is claimed is:

1. A shuttering formwork comprising:

an elongate body member comprising a hollow base portion and a hollow compression portion extending from said base portion substantially perpendicularly thereto and presenting a free end that extends along a length direction of said elongate body member;

said elongate body member comprising a first side and a second side, each of said first side and said second side comprising a compression portion side face and a base portion upper face, the compression portion side face and the base portion upper face being flat-face planar walls of the compression portion and the base portion, respectively;

a strip element releasably attachable to said free end of said compression portion,

said base portion, said compression portion and said strip element each comprise a plastics material, said strip element comprises a hollow structure, and the flat-face planar wall of the compression portion side face and the flat-face planar wall of the base portion upper face of at least one side of said first and second sides of said elongate body member each being resiliently deformable.

2. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flat-face planar wall of the compression portion side face and the flat-face planar wall of the base portion upper face of both said first and second sides of said elongate body member are each resiliently deformable.

3. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow base portion, the hollow compression portion and the hollow structure of the strip element each have a cross-section that comprises at least one substantially rectangular shape.

4. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow compression portion is substantially centrally located along a width direction of said elongate body member.

5. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow base portion defines a plurality of base apertures therethrough on each of said first side and said second side of said elongate body member for receiving mortar material.

6. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 5, wherein each of said base apertures has a diameter that is

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equal to or greater than 50% of the width dimension of the respective base portion upper face.

7. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein said strip element is securable to said free end of the hollow compression portion by a friction fit.

8. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein said strip element is securable to said free end of the compression portion in a predetermined condition by a positive mechanical fit.

9. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow compression portion defines a plurality of compression portion apertures therethrough for receiving a respective dowel bar.

10. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of end clip elements for joining together an end of said elongate body member and an end of a second elongate body member.

11. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plastics material is UPVC material.

12. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 11, wherein said UPVC is recycled UPVC material.

13. A method of setting up shuttering formwork for a concrete pour, said method comprising the steps of:

a) receiving the shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 5,

b) positioning the elongate body member of said received shuttering formwork upon mortar material such that mortar material is received within the base apertures of the base element, and

c) attaching the strip element of said received shuttering formwork to the free end of the compression portion of said elongate body member.

14. A shuttering formwork for retaining an edge to concrete during pouring and curing of the concrete, the shuttering formwork comprising:

(a) an elongate planar base having an upper flat face for location horizontally during the pouring and curing of the concrete;

(b) only a single upstanding wall, and the single upstanding wall:

(i) is upstanding perpendicularly from the upper flat face of the elongate planar base,

(ii) is the sole wall which is upstanding from the elongate planar base,

(iii) has a concrete-retaining flat face for defining the edge by retaining the edge of the concrete during the pouring and curing of the concrete,

(c) an elongate strip element selectively attachable lengthwise by friction fit to the top of the single upstanding wall; and

the elongate planar base and the single upstanding wall are each of hollow resiliently deformable plastics for resilience to deformation in retaining the edge during the pouring and curing of the concrete.

15. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 14, wherein the elongate planar base and the single upstanding wall are of extruded plastics.

16. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 14, wherein the single upstanding wall is centrally located along a width direction of the elongate planar base.

17. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim 14, wherein the elongate planar base has a hollow structure comprising spaced-apart walls that are interconnected by cross-pieces.

18. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim **14**, wherein the single upstanding wall has a hollow structure comprising spaced-apart walls that are interconnected by cross-pieces.

19. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim **14**,
5 wherein the elongate planar base portion, the single upstanding wall and the strip element each have a same cross sectional thickness.

20. The shuttering formwork as claimed in claim **14**, wherein each of the single upstanding wall and the strip
10 element have first and second opposed flat-face planar walls, the first flat-face planar wall of the strip element is substantially parallel to and a continuation of the first flat face planar wall of the single upstanding wall while the second flat-face
15 planar wall of the strip element is substantially parallel and a continuation of the second flat-face planar wall of the single upstanding wall.

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